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FM AMEMBASSY TASHKENT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0947
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TAGS: [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [RS](#) [UZ](#)
SUBJECT: UZBEKISTAN ON LETHAL TRANSIT NEGOTIATIONS WITH RUSSIA

REF: 09 STATE 54767

CLASSIFIED BY: Nicholas Berliner, Pol-Econ Chief; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

(C) The Ambassador delivered reftel demarche to Uzbek MFA Americas Head Tahir Mamadjanov on May 29. Mamadjanov, appearing somewhat surprised, inquired about the types of materials and the means by which they would transit. This demarche raises the question for the Uzbeks if we will eventually seek a broadening of the NDN agreement to include lethal transit or if we will simply seek over flight clearance for aircraft. Mamadjanov appeared curious as to what role, if any, Uzbekistan would have - and implied that, given its key location astride one of the few rail portals into Afghanistan, it was hard to imagine what sort of transit arrangement might be reached with Russia that would not involve Uzbekistan. Whatever the case may be, Tashkent has more questions than answers and it would be useful to clarify these issues sooner rather than later to keep unhelpful speculation on the part of the GOU under control.

NORLAND